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A NEW SPECIES OF *METALECTRA* FROM FLORIDA (LEPIDOPTERA: PHALAENIDAE)

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Metalectra albilinea, new species

Head dark slate gray above, few light brown and pinkish scales in middle of frons or light patch on frons; antennae dark gray with slightly lighter bands; palpi with second segment dark gray with some light scales, third segment whitish with black band across middle. Thorax dark slate gray. Legs gray to black, tarsi banded with white; middle tibiae of male with fringe of scales on outer side. Wings reddish brown suffused with dark gray; black basal dash defined on outer side by white which expands into white spot on costa; t. a. line white defined on outer side by row of black scales, almost erect, in some specimens outwardly produced on radial sector, incurved across cell and excurved above and below anal vein; orbicular a faint gray spot or obsolescent; reniform faintly indicated as darker dash on outer edge of median line; median line erect from costa to cell, excurved to reniform then erect to inner margin with slight inward angulation in submedian fold and excurvation across anal vein; area between reniform and t. p. line contrastingly light reddish brown; t. p. line black, outwardly defined by white scales especially at costa where there is a white point, outwardly oblique to vein 6 (M_1), erect to vein 4 (M_3), then incurved to inner margin, produced to outwardly directed points on veins 1 to 6 (M_1 to A); two white points on costa between t. p. and subterminal lines; subterminal line pure white defined by preceding dark gray-brown subterminal area and succeeding dark brown terminal area, somewhat produced on veins 7 (R_5) and 4 (M_3) and incurved in discal fold and below vein 4; black terminal line expanding into triangles between the veins, on outer side defined by white or whitish line through base of cilia, the white line being broader opposite the black spots of the terminal line; cilia beyond basal line dark gray with some pinkish scales. Hind wing gray with brownish tint, trace of light subterminal line especially near inner margin; dark gray terminal line, broader between the veins; cilia dark with light line through their bases. Beneath fore wing ochreous suffused with brown, trace of t. a. and t. p. lines at costa; faint light subterminal line; terminal area lighter; black terminal line and cilia as above; hind wing as above but lighter.

EXPANSE.—17 mm.

MALE GENITALIA (2 slides, Figs. 1–3) as figured but harpes and claspers of the two sides alike; the claspers normally project posteriorly, and in Figure 1 the clasper of the right harpe has been turned completely to give a mesal view while the one of the left harpe projects slightly posteriorly and is accordingly of somewhat different outline. Figure 2 is a truly mesal view of the left harpe showing normal maximal outline of both clasper and semi-membranous apical half of harpe (cucullus). Figure 3 shows the same in more ventral view; this aspect though more readily obtained in preparing a mount does not show adequately the needed diagnostic characters. Diagnostic characters are the shape of the clasper and cucullus (Fig. 2) and the simple vesica. The closest North American species, *miserulata* Grote, has a slightly different clasper and a larger cucullus which is distinctly broader at the middle and tapering to a rounded apex.

Female genitalia (2 slides, Fig. 4) as figured. Spines on the dorsal side of the bursa copulatrix shown in stipple; that part of the bursa anterior to this row of spines covered with microtrichiae which become smaller at the anterior end. These structures are extremely close to those of *miserulata* Grote, differing principally in the scale pouch areas at the latero-anterior corners of segment VIII (in *miserulata* this area is rather well developed and has an anteriorly projecting evagination where *albilinea* has only a slight ridge—indicated in Figure 4 by arrow).

HOLOTYPE.—♂, S. Jacksonville, Florida. April 2, 1922. Thos. J. Hallinan. A.M.N.H. Acc. No. 23983. (In American Museum of Natural History.)

ALLOTYPE.—♀, Florida, no further data. Henry Edwards Collection No. 12430. (In American Museum of Natural History.)

PARATYPES.—1 ♂, 1 ♀, Florida, no further data. (Ex Schaus Collection, in U. S. National Museum.)

In both appearance and markings this

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new species is most similar among North American species to *miserulata* Grote from which it may be readily recognized by its smaller size, red-brown color, less distinct black lines, PURE WHITE SUBTERMINAL LINE, and shape of the cucullus of the male genitalia. None of the species in the neotropical collections of the U. S. National Museum is close to *albilinea*. Of the tropical species, *albilinea* seems to come closest to the description of *violescens* Hampson (1926, Descr. N. Gen. and Sp. Lepid. Phal. Noct., pp. 282–283) from Panama (type locality) and Costa Rica; from this species *albilinea* differs in having no whitish on the outer side of the reniform, area between reniform and t. p. line contrastingly lighter, no dark brown patch beyond the subterminal line and some other pattern details.

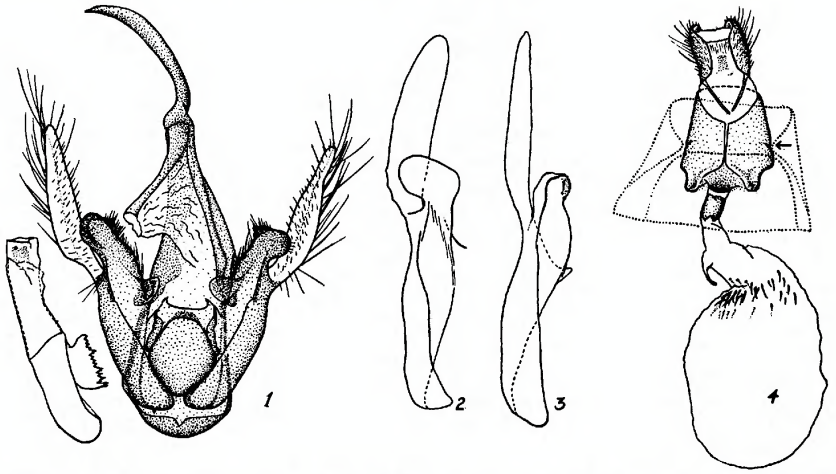

Fig. 1. *Metalectra albilinea*, n. sp. Male genitalia of paratype. Aedeagus drawn alongside at same magnification.
Fig. 2. Truly mesal view of left harpe of same specimen. Slightly higher magnification.
Fig. 3. Ventral view of left harpe of holotype.
Fig. 4. Ventral view of female genitalia of paratype. Outline of segment VII shown by dotted lines.